

ELECTION RIGHTS OF POLITICAL PARTIES. LEGISLATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

ARGUMENT in Favor of Proposition 60

Proposition 60 protects your right to choice in elections.

FULL, FREE, AND OPEN DEBATE IS IMPORTANT IN A DEMOCRACY. WE HAVE NOTHING TO FEAR FROM HEARING DIFFERENT POINTS OF VIEW.

That's why a century ago, ordinary citizens of California fought for their right to select political party nominees for office in direct primary elections. Proposition 60 protects that important right.

PROPOSITION 60 PROTECTS VOTER CHOICE by guaranteeing that every political party has the right to nominate candidates for partisan office in a primary election and compete in a general election. We need that choice and accountability.

PROPOSITION 60 PROVIDES A DIRECT ALTERNATIVE TO PROPOSITION 62, the radical scheme to eliminate our direct primary elections.

- Proposition 62 would impose the election system from the State of Louisiana (the only state to have such a system). In Louisiana, voters' choice in a recent runoff election was a former Grand Wizard of the Ku Klux Klan and a governor who later went to prison.
- Under Proposition 62, only the two top vote getters in the first round of voting would proceed to the general election. Proposition 62, effectively excludes California's five minor parties and independents from the general election. In many districts, your only choices would be two members of the same party.
- If Proposition 62's special interest scheme had been in place in 2002, six million California votes would not have been counted, and 50 different general election races would have

been limited to candidates from the same party.

- Proposition 62 is sponsored by insurance companies, financial institutions and failed wealthy politicians who spent \$2 million to put their power grab scheme on the ballot.
- Proposition 62 would depress voter turnout, elevate the importance of money and fame, increase opportunities for extremist candidates, and decrease opportunities for minority officeholders.
- Under Proposition 62, California's diversified Legislature with many African Americans, Latinos, Asians, and female legislators will suffer and politics will return to being dominated by rich white males.
- Proposition 62 could allow the two wealthiest candidates to buy victory in the first round of voting and end up on the November ballot, making campaign finance reform meaningless.

In dramatic contrast, *PROPOSITION 60 WILL PRESERVE YOUR RIGHT TO CHOICE IN ELECTIONS.*

Vote YES on Proposition 60 to *PROTECT YOUR RIGHT TO CHOICE IN ELECTIONS.*

Vote YES on Proposition 60 to *GUARANTEE YOUR RIGHT TO HEAR ALL POINTS OF VIEW.*

DAN STANFORD, *Former Chairman*

California Fair Political Practices Commission

BARBARA O'CONNOR, Ph.D., *Director*

Institute for the Study of Politics & Media

California State University, Sacramento

GEORGE N. ZENOVICH, *Associate Justice, Retired*
5th District Court of Appeal

REBUTTAL to Argument in Favor of Proposition 60

Politics has been called "the art of the possible." In a letter to President Kennedy, John Kenneth Galbraith once said: "Politics is not the art of the possible. It consists of choosing between the disastrous and the unpalatable." Even if, as proponents of Proposition 60 argue, the election scheme contained in Proposition 62 is disastrous, Proposition 60, which purports to save us from Proposition 62, is nonetheless unpalatable.

Proposition 60 only deals with general elections. The measure is silent on how primary elections will be conducted, leaving the door open for potential voting mischief that can adversely impact the right of parties to select their nominees. If the supporters of Proposition 60 truly

wish to protect "full, free, and open debate" they should have included permanent constitutional protection defining the direct primary. Californians deserve the stability of a system that prohibits the members of one party from meddling in the primaries of another.

In seeking to compromise, the backers of Proposition 60 stopped short of what needs to be done.

That may be practicing the art of the possible, but it is no less "unpalatable" and deserves a no vote.

SENATOR BILL MORROW

ASSEMBLYMEMBER SARAH REYES